

Message Text

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17

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SS-20 NSC-10 L-03 H-03

PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /100 W

----- 075369

R 051403Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO AMEMBASSY SANAA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6084

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 596

E.O. 11652: VGDS

TAGS: ETRN, YE, SA

SUBJECT: YEMEN AIRLINES/PAN AM TEAM VISIT

REF SANAA 154

1. PANAM TEAM FAILED TO CONTACT EMBASSY JIDDA UNTIL DAY AFTER THEIR FIRST MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN OF SAUDIA KAMEL SINDI. VICE PRESIDENT TOWNSEND DEPARTED BEFORE SECOND SUBSTANTIVE MEETING BETWEEN SAUDIA AND YEMEN AIRLINES REPRESENTATIVES SHA'IFF AND HAMADA ON JANUARY 20. PANAM NOT RPT NOT INVITED TO ATTEND MEETING BY SAUDIA CHAIRMAN.

2. IN DISCUSSIONS ON TELEPHONE, PANAM REP FROM BEIRUT, LYLE GRACE, SAID THAT \$10 MILLION PACKAGE PROPOSAL BY PANAM, INCLUDING MANAGEMENT CONTRACT, RECEIVED BY SINDI WITH VERY LITTLE COMMENT. PRESUMABLY YEMEN AIRLINE REPRESENTATIVES WILL MAKE REPORT TO YARG ON SECOND AND CRUCIAL MEETING BUT TWA SOURCES REPORT IN EFFECT THAT PANAM PROGRAM AS DRAFTED HAS
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LITTLE CHANCE OF BEING APPROVED BY SAUDIA OR BY

PRINCE SULTAN. WE ARE LESS CERTAIN THAT YAR AIRLINE WILL BE COMPLETELY TURNED DOWN SINCE ALTERNATIVE FUNDING BY OTHER STATES, ESPECIALLY ABU DHABI, WOULD NOT BE AGREEABLE TO SAUDI ARABIA AT THIS POINT. TWA AND SAUDIA DO INTEND TO PROPOSE INSTEAD A 49 PERCENT PARTICIPATION SCHEME BUT THIS MAY NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE YAR AIRLINE BOARD (REFTEL). HOWEVER, THE PRESENT WET-LEASE ARRANGEMENTS APPEAR TO BE VERY COSTLY AND THE AIRLINE WILL HAVE TO FIND A SAVIOUR SOON, ACCORDING TO PANAM.

3. WE WOULD EXPECT THAT THIS PROPOSAL BY PANAM MAY PROMPT FURTHER THINKING BY TWA AND SAUDIA ABOUT THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO YEMENI AIRLINE. WE WILL KEEP YOU POSTED.

AKINS

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Message Attributes

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